

PRE

- TO PREVENT.** *v. a.* [from *prævenio*, Lat. *prævenir*, Fr.]
 1. To go before as a guide; to go before, making the way easy.
 Are we to forsake any true opinion, or to shun any requisite action, only because we have in the practice thereof been prevented by idolaters. *Hooker, b. v. f. 12.*
 Prevent him with the blessings of goodness. *Psalms xxi. 3.*
 Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favour. *Common Prayer.*
 Let thy grace, O Lord, always prevent and follow us. *Common Prayer.*
 2. To go before; to be before; to anticipate.
 Mine eyes prevent the night-watches, that I might be occupied in thy words. *Psalms cxix. 4.*
 The same officer told us, he came to conduct us, and that he had prevented the hour, because we might have the whole day before us for our business. *Bacon.*
 Nothing engendered doth prevent his meat;
 Flies have their tables spread, ere they appear;
 Some creatures have in winter what to eat;
 Others do sleep. *Herbert's Temple of Sacred Poems.*
 Soon shalt thou find, if thou but arm their hands,
 Their ready guilt preventing thy commands;
 Could'st thou some great proportion'd mischief frame,
 They'd prove the father from whose loins they came. *Pope.*
 3. To preoccupy; to preengage; to attempt first.
 Thou hast prevented us with offerings of love, even when we were thine enemies. *King Charles.*
 4. To hinder; to obviate; to obstruct. This is now almost the only sense.
 They prevented me in the day of my trouble; but the Lord was my upholder. *Psalms xviii. 18.*
 I do find it cowardly and vile,
 For fear of what might fall, to prevent
 The time of life. *Shakespeare, Julius Caesar.*
 This your sincerest care could not prevent,
 Foretold so lately what would come to pass.
 Too great confidence in success is the likeliest to prevent it; because it hinders us from making the best use of the advantages which we enjoy. *Attorney.*
TO PREVENT. *v. n.* To come before the time. A latitudinarian.
 Strawberries watered with water, wherein hath been steeped sheep's dung, will prevent and come early. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*
PREVENTER. *n. f.* [from *prevent*.]
 1. One that goes before.
 The archduke was the assailant, and the preventer, and had the fruit of his diligence and celerity. *Bacon.*
 2. One that hinders; an hinderer; an obstructer.
PREVENTION. *n. f.* [from *preventio*, Fr. from *preventum*, Lat.]
 1. The act of going before.
 The greater the distance, the greater the prevention; as in thunder, where the lightning precedeth the crack a good space. *Bacon.*
 No odds appear'd
 In might or swift prevention. *Milton.*
 2. Preoccupation; anticipation.
 Achievements, plots, orders, preventions,
 Success or loss. *Shakespeare.*
 3. Hindrance; obstruction.
 Half way he met
 His daring foe, at this prevention more
 Incens'd. *Milton.*
 Prevention of sin is one of the greatest mercies God can vouchsafe. *South's Sermons.*
 4. Prejudice; prepossession. A French expression.
 In reading what I have written, let them bring no particular gusto or any prevention of mind, and that whatsoever judgment they make, it may be purely their own. *Dryden.*
PREVENTIONAL. *adj.* [from *preventio*.] Tending to prevention. *Diſt.*
PREVENTIVE. *adj.* [from *prevent*.]
 1. Tending to hinder.
 Wars preventive upon just fears are true defences, as well as upon actual invasions. *Bacon.*
 2. Preventative; hindering ill. It has of before the thing prevented.
 Physick is curative or preventive of diseases; preventive is that which, by purging noxious humours, preventeth sickness. *Brown.*
 Procuring a due degree of sweat and perspiration, is the best preventive of the gout. *Arbutnot.*
PREVENTIVE. *n. f.* [from *prevent*.] A preventative; that which prevents; an antidote.
PREVENTIVELY. *adv.* [from *preventive*.] In such a manner as tends to prevention.
 Such as fearing to concede a monstrosity, or mutilate the integrity of Adam, preventively conceive the creation of thirteen ribs. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
PREVIOUS. *adj.* [from *prævius*, Lat.] Antecedent; going before; prior.
 By this previous intimation we may gather some hopes, that the matter is not desperate. *Burnet's Theory of the Earth.*
 Sound from the mountain, previous to the storm.
 Rolls o'er the muttering Earth. *Thomson.*

PRI

- PREVIOUSLY.** *adv.* [from *previous*.] Beforehand; antecedently.
 Daring their fings, they previously declare
 Design'd revenge, and fierce intent of war. *Prior.*
 It cannot be reconciled with perfect sincerity, as previously supposing some neglect of better information. *Fiddes.*
PREVIOUSNESS. *n. f.* [from *previous*.] Antecedence.
PREY. *n. f.* [from *præda*, Lat.]
 1. Something to be devoured; something to be seized; food gotten by violence; ravine; wealth gotten by violence; plunder.
 A garrison supported itself, by the prey it took from the neighbourhood of Aylesbury. *Clarendon, b. viii.*
 The whole included race his purpos'd prey. *Milton.*
 She fees herself the monster's prey,
 And feels her heart and entrails torn away. *Dryden.*
 Pindar, that eagle, mounts the skies,
 While virtue leads the noble way;
 Too like a vulture Boileau flies,
 Where fordid int'rest flews the prey. *Prior.*
 2. Ravage; depredation.
 Heg in sloth, fox in stealth, lion in prey. *Shakespeare.*
 3. Animal of prey, is an animal that lives on other animals.
 There are men of prey, as well as beasts and birds of prey, that live upon, and delight in blood. *L'Estrange.*
TO PREY. *v. n.* [from *præda*, Lat.]
 1. To feed by violence. With *on* before the object.
 Lay couching head on ground, with cat-like watch,
 When that the sleeping man should stir: for 'tis
 The royal disposition of that beast
 To prey on nothing that doth seem as dead. *Shakespeare.*
 Put your torches out;
 The wolves have prey'd, and look the gentle day
 Dapples the drowsy east. *Shakespeare.*
 Jove venom first infus'd in serpents fell,
 Taught wolves to prey, and stormy seas to swell. *May.*
 Their impious folly dar'd to prey
 On herds devoted to the god of day. *Pope.*
 2. To plunder; to rob.
 They pray continually unto their faint commonwealth,
 or rather not pray to her, but prey on her; for they ride up and down on her, and make her their boots. *Shakespeare.*
 3. To corrode; to waste.
 Language is too faint to show
 His rage of love; it preys upon his life;
 He pines, he sickens, he despairs, he dies. *Addison.*
PREYER. *n. f.* [from *prey*.] Robber; devourer; plunderer.
PRIAPISM. *n. f.* [from *priapismus*, Lat. *priapisme*, Fr.] A preternatural teniſion.
 Luſt cauſeth a flagraney in the eyes and priapism. *Bacon.*
 The person every night has a priapism in his sleep. *Fleſher.*
PRICE. *n. f.* [from *prix*, Fr. *præcium*, Lat.]
 1. Equivalent paid for any thing.
 I will buy it of thee at a price; neither will I offer burnt-offerings unto the Lord my God, of that which cost me nothing. *2 Samuel xxiv. 24.*
 From that which hath its price in composition, if you take away any thing, or any part do fail, all is disgrace. *Bacon.*
 If fortune has a niggard been to thee,
 Devote thyself to thrift, not luxury;
 And wisely make that kind of food thy choice,
 To which necessity confines thy price. *Dryden.*
 2. Value; estimation; supposed excellence.
 We stand in some jealousy, lest by thus overvaluing their sermons, they make the price and estimation of scripture, otherwise notified, to fall. *Hooker.*
 Sugar hath put down the use of honey, inasmuch as we have lost those preparations of honey which the ancients had, when it was more in price. *Bacon.*
 3. Rate at which any thing is sold.
 Supposing the quantity of wheat, in respect to its vent be the same, that makes the change in the price of wheat. *Locke.*
 4. Reward; thing purchased at any rate.
 Sometimes virtue starves, while vice is fed;
 What then? is the reward of virtue bread?
 That, vice may merit; 'tis the price of toil;
 The knave deserves it, when he tills the soil. *Pope.*
TO PRICE. *v. a.* To pay for.
 Some shall pay the price of others guilt;
 And he the man that made false foy to fall,
 Shall with his own blood price that he hath spilt. *F. Quar.*
TO PRICK. *v. a.* [from *præc*, Saxon.]
 1. To pierce with a small puncture.
 Leave her to hear'n,
 And to those thorns that in her bosom lodge,
 To prick and sting her. *Shakespeare, Hamlet.*
 There shall be no more a pricking brier unto the house of Israel, nor any grieving thorn. *Ezekiel xxviii. 24.*
 If she pricked her finger, Jack laid the pin in the way. *Arb.*
 2. To form or erect with an acuminated point.
 The poets make fame a monster; they say, look how many feathers the hath, so many eyes the hath underneath, so many tongues, so many voices, she pricks up to many ears. *Bacon's Essays.*
 A hunted

PRI

- A hunted panther casts about
 Her glaring eyes, and pricks her list'ning ears to scout. *Dry.*
 His rough crest he rears,
 And pricks up his predelinating ears. *Dryden.*
 The fiery courser, when he hears from far
 The sprightly trumpets and the shouts of war,
 Pricks up his ears. *Dryden's Virgil's Georg.*
 A greyhound hath pricked ears, but those of a hound hang down; for that the former hunts with his ears, the latter only with his nose.
 The tuneful noise the sprightly courser hears,
 Paws the green turf, and pricks his trembling ears. *Gay.*
 Keep close to ears, and those left asses prick;
 'Tis nothing—nothing; if they bite and kick. *Pope.*
 3. To fix by the point.
 I cauted the edges of two knives to be ground truly straight, and pricking their points into a board, so that their edges might look towards one another, and meeting near their points contain a rectilinear angle, I fastened their handles together with pitch, to make this angle invariable. *Newton.*
 4. To hang on a point.
 The cooks slice it into little goblets, prick it on a prong of iron, and hang it in a furnace. *Sandys.*
 5. To nominate by a puncture or mark.
 Those many then shall die, their names are pricked.
 Some who are pricked for sheriffs, and are fit, set out of the bill. *Shakespeare.*
 6. To spur; to goad; to impel; to incite.
 When I call to mind your gracious favours,
 My duty pricks me on to utter that,
 Which else no worldly good should draw from me. *Shakespeare.*
 Well, 'tis no matter, honour pricks me on;
 But how if honour prick me off, when
 I come on. *Shakespeare, Henry IV.*
 His high courage prick'd him forth to wed. *Pope.*
 7. To pain; to pierce with remorse.
 When they heard this, they were pricked in their hearts,
 and said, men and brethren what shall we do? *Acts ii. 37.*
 8. To make acid.
 They their late attacks decline,
 And turn as eager as prick'd wine. *Hudibras, p. ii.*
 9. To mark a tune.
 To PRICK. *v. n.* [from *pricken*, Dutch.]
 1. To dress one's self for show.
 2. To come upon the spur. This seems to be the sense in *Spenser*.
 After that Varlet's flight, it was not long,
 Ere on the plain fast pricking Guyon spied,
 One in bright arms embattled full strong. *Fa. Queen.*
 A gentle knight was pricking on the plain,
 Yclad in mighty arms of silver shield. *Fa. Queen.*
 They had not ridden far, when they might see
 One pricking towards them with hasty heat. *Fa. Queen.*
 The Scottish horsemen began to hover much upon the English army, and to come pricking about them, sometimes within length of their staves. *Hayward.*
 Before each van
 Prick forth the airy knights. *Milton.*
 In this king Arthur's reign,
 A lusty knight was pricking o'er the plain. *Dryden.*
PRICK. *n. f.* [from *pricken*, Saxon.]
 1. A sharp slender instrument; any thing by which a puncture is made.
 The country gives me proof
 Of bedlam beggars, who, with roaring voices,
 Strike in their numb'd and mortified bare arms
 Pins, wooden pricks, nails, sprigs of rosemary. *Shakespeare.*
 It is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. *Acts ix. 5.*
 If the English would not in peace govern them by the law, nor could in war root them out by the sword, must they not be pricks in their eyes, and thorns in their sides. *Davies.*
 If God would have had men live like wild beasts, he would have armed them with horns, tusks, talons or pricks. *Bramb.*
 2. A thorn in the mind; a teasing and tormenting thought; remorse of conscience.
 My conscience first receiv'd a tenderness,
 Scruple, and prick, on certain speeches utter'd
 By th' bishop of Bayon. *Shakespeare, Henry VIII.*
 3. A spot or mark at which archers aim.
 For long shooting, their shaft was a cloth yard, their pricks twenty-four score; for strength, they would pierce any ordinary armour. *Carew's Survey of Cornwall.*
 4. A point; a fixed place.
 Now gins this goodly frame of temperance
 Fairly to rise, and her adorned head
 To prick of highest praise forth to advance. *Spenser.*
 Phaeton hath tumbled from his car,
 And made an evening at the noon-tide prick. *Shakespeare.*
 5. A puncture.
 No aſps were diſcovered in the place of her death, only two ſmall inſenſible pricks were found in her arm. *Brown.*
 6. The print of a hare in the ground.

PRI

- PRICKER.** *n. f.* [from *prick*.]
 1. A sharp-pointed instrument.
 Pricker is vulgarly called an awl; yet, for joiner's use, it hath most commonly a square blade. *Moxon's Mechan. Esays.*
 2. A light horseman.
 They had horsemen, prickers as they are termed, fitter to make excursions and to chace, than to sustain any strong charge. *Hayward.*
PRICKET. *n. f.* [from *prick*.] A buck in his second year.
 I've call'd the deer; the prince's kill'd a pricket. *Shakespeare.*
 The buck is called the first year a fawn, the second year a pricket. *Manwood of the Laws of the Forest.*
PRICKLE. *n. f.* [from *prick*.] Small sharp point, like that of a brier.
 The prickles of trees are a kind of excreſcence; the plants that have prickles, are black and white, thoſe have it in the bough; the plants that have prickles in the leaf, are holly and juniper; nettles also have a small venomous prickle. *Bacon.*
 An herb growing in the water, called lincolſhis, is full of prickles: this putteth forth another ſmall herb out of the leaf, imputed to moiſture gathered between the prickles. *Bacon.*
 A fox catching hold of a bramble to break his fall, the prickles ran into his feet. *L'Eſtrange.*
 The man who laugh'd but once to ſee an aſs
 Mumbling to make the croſs-grain'd thistles paſs,
 Might laugh again, to ſee a jury chaw
 The prickles of unpalatable law. *Dryden.*
 The flower's divine, where'er it grows,
 Neglect the prickles, and assume the rose. *Watts.*
PRICKLINESS. *n. f.* [from *prickly*.] Fullness of sharp points.
PRICKLOUSE. *n. f.* [from *prick* and *louse*.] A word of contempt for a taylor. A low word.
 A taylor and his wife quarreling; the woman in contempt called her husband pricklouse. *L'Eſtrange.*
PRICKSONG. *n. f.* [from *prick* and *song*.] Song set to music.
 He fights as you ſing prickſongs, keeps time, diſtance and proportion. *Shakespeare, Romeo and Juliet.*
PRICKLY. *adj.* [from *prick*.] Full of sharp points.
 Artichokes will be leſs prickly and more tender, if the ſeeds have their tops grated off upon a ſtone. *Bacon.*
 I no more
 Shall ſee you browzing, on the mountain's brow,
 The prickly ſhrubs. *Dryden.*
 How did the humbled ſwain deſert
 His prickly beard, and hairy breaſt! *Swift's Misc.*
PRICKMADAM. *n. f.* A species of houſeleek, which ſee.
PRICKPUNCH. *n. f.*
 Prickpunch is a piece of tempered ſteel, with a round point at one end, to prick a round mark in cold iron. *Moxon.*
PRICKWOOD. *n. f.* A tree. *Ainsworth.*
PRIDE. *n. f.* [from *præc* or *prybs*, Saxon.]
 1. Inordinate and unreaſonable ſelf-ſteem.
 I can ſee his pride
 Peep through each part of him. *Shakespeare, Henry V. II.*
 Pride hath no other glaſs
 To ſhew itſelf, but pride; for ſupple knees
 Feed arrogance, and are the proud man's fees. *Shakespeare.*
 He his wonted pride ſoon recoleſts. *Milton.*
 Vain aims, inordinate deſires
 Blown up with high conceits engend'ring pride. *Milton.*
 2. Inſolence; rude treatment of others; inſolent exultation.
 That witch
 Hath wrought this helliſh miſchief unawares;
 That hardly we eſcap'd the pride of France. *Shakespeare.*
 They undergo
 This annual humbling certain number'd days,
 To daſh their pride and joy for man ſeduc'd. *Milton.*
 Wantonmiſs and pride
 Raiſe out of friendſhip, hoſtile deeds in peace. *Milton.*
 3. Dignity of manner; loſineſs of air.
 4. Generous elation of heart.
 The honeſt pride of conſcious virtue. *Smith.*
 5. Elevation; dignity.
 A falcon, tow'ring in her pride of place,
 Was by a moſsing owl hawk'd at and kill'd. *Shakespeare.*
 6. Ornament; ſhow; decoration.
 Whole lofty trees, yclad with ſummer's pride,
 Did ſpread ſo broad, that heavens light did hide. *F. Quar.*
 Smalleſt lineaments exact,
 In all the liveries deck'd of ſummer's pride. *Milton.*
 Be his this ſword,
 Whole ivory ſheath, inwrought with curious pride,
 Adds graceful terror to the wearer's ſide. *Pope.*
 7. Splendour; oftentation.
 In this array the war of either ſide,
 Through Athens paſſ'd with military pride. *Dryden.*
 8. The ſtate of a female beaſt folloſting the male.
 It is impoſſible you ſhould ſee this,
 Were they as ſalt as wolves in pride. *Shakespeare.*
TO PRIDE. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To make proud; to rate himſelf high. It is only uſed with the reciprocal pronoun.
 He could have made the moſt deformed beggar as rich, as thoſe who moſt pride themſelves in their wealth. *Go. of the Ton.*
 6